

Method and Apparatus for Controlling Part Movement

Abstract

There is disclosed herein an apparatus and a method in which a workpiece is loaded into the apparatus and the apparatus then moves and positions the workpiece in a multitude of directions based upon the directions and controls supplied to the apparatus through either a computer and applets, a programmable controller and/or through manual intervention. The apparatus can move the workpiece linearly to a predetermined position, rotate the workpiece in a continuous motion, index the workpiece incrementally and/or do any combination of those movements. The apparatus can also control other components such as turning coolant and/or quench valves on and off as desired or powering working tools such as an induction hardening coil. The workpiece is loaded directly on the center of the apparatus movement and positioning device for increased capacity loading and precision movement.